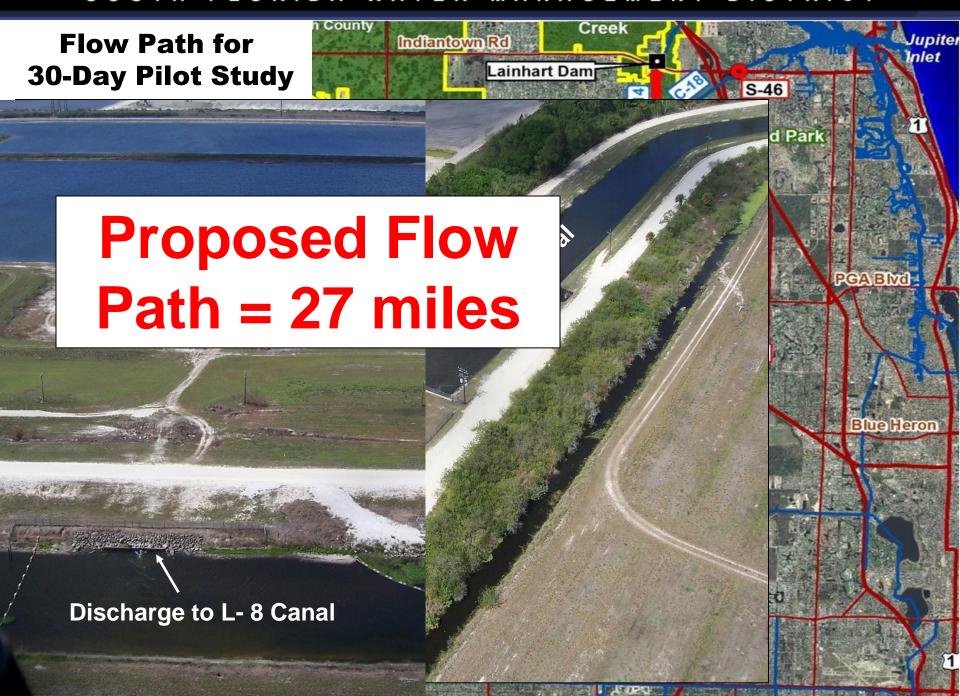


Matthew J. Morrison, Director, Project Coordination Division Everglades Restoration and Capital Projects



# Loxahatchee River Watershed Restoration Project - Operational Testing

- The interagency technical team expanded the two-week pilot test to 30 non-consecutive days to allow SFWMD more flexibility in the event of a pump failure or a significant rainfall event
- The City of West Palm Beach voluntarily reduced its pumping to 12 hours/day (off-peak hours) at its Control 2 pump station. This change eliminated the need for additional temporary pumps
- Because the L-8 Reservoir represents an alternative source of water, the City can pump additional water as long as it comes from the L-8 Reservoir



### **Operational Testing (Cont.)**



- Feb. 25, 2011 SFMWD began collecting water quality data at 11 stations in the L-8 Reservoir, L-8 and M-Canals, Grassy Waters Preserve and G-161 structure
- Feb 28 SFWMD received permission from FDEP to conduct the pilot test pursuant to permit conditions
- March 1 SFWMD started pumping from the L-8 Reservoir, and the City of West Palm Beach initiated 24-hour pumping at its Control 2 pump station discharging water eastward into the M-Canal and Grassy Waters Preserve



#### **Operational Testing (Cont.)**



 March 2 - City of West Palm Beach completed installation of temporary earthen plugs in M-Canal to maintain channeled flow through Grassy Waters Preserve

#### March 3 - Present

- The L-8 Reservoir and City's Control 2 pump station continue to pump; SFWMD water quality monitoring continues
- The G-161 structure has been gradually opened delivering 20-30 cfs of surface water flow northward to G-92 and Lainhart Dam. These initial flows represent water previously stored in the NE quadrant of Grassy Waters Preserve





## Operational Testing (Cont.)



- Significant losses in flow between the Control 2 Pump station and Grassy Waters Preserve have been observed within the M-Canal, presumably due to seepage
- Significant difference in flows delivered over G-92 (~40 cfs) versus those recorded 2 miles downstream at Lainhart Dam; (~20 cfs) have been recorded during the test
  - Field investigations show that all South Indian River Water Control District gates have been closed. Staff is researching the cause for these water losses
- SFWMD has received excellent cooperation from the City of West Palm Beach and Seminole Improvement District in helping move the pilot test forward



